THIRTEENTH DAY.

Wednesday, 15th October 1941.

The House reassembled at the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion on Wednesday, 15th October 1941, at 8 of the clock, *Rajamantrapravina* K. V. Anantaraman, B.A., Minister for Revenue and Finance, in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—*concld*

Presidentship of Malur Town Municipal Council.

Q.—135. **Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY** (Malur—Rural).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) for how many municipalities in the State, the Government have granted the privilege of electing their own non-official presidents ;

(*b*) for how many terms the Malur Town Municipal Council was given the privilege of electing its own president ;

(*c*) who were those elected non-official presidents, and for what periods were they elected ;

(*d*) whether non-officials had been nominated as presidents of the Malur Town Municipal Council ; if so, who are they ; when and for what periods ;

(*e*) (i) whether a non-official has been allowed to be elected as president during the present term of the Municipal Council, or (ii) whether any non-official has been nominated as such ?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. H. V. Narayana Rao).**—

(*a*) This privilege has been granted to seven town municipalities in the State.

(*b*) The Malur Minor Municipal Council was at no time given the privilege of electing its own president.

(*c*) None.

(*d*) Two non-officials were nominated as Presidents as noted below :—

(1) Mr. M. V. Rudriah from 1930-31 till December 1933. (Government Notification No. 2/Ml. 214-29-21, dated 1st July 1930).

(2) Mr. L. Vema Reddy from 1-5-1934 to 1-3-1937. (Government Notification No. L. 7121/Ml., dated 24th April 1934).

(3) Mr. L. Vema Reddy from 1-3-37 to 1-3-1941. (Government Notification No. L. 6303/Ml. 36-36-70, dated 27th February 1937).

(*e*) (i) No.

(ii) No.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.— With reference to answer to (*a*), may I know which are the seven municipalities which enjoy the privilege of electing their own non-official presidents ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.— The Town Municipalities of Hassan, Chitaldrug, Davangere, Chikballapur, Tiptur, Tumkur and Nanjangud ; also the City Municipality of Bangalore.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.— Why is it that this privilege is not given to other town municipalities ? What is the principle adopted in extending this privilege to those 7 or 8 municipalities only ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.— Those municipalities passed resolutions in that behalf and submitted them to Government for sanction. Subject to certain conditions, the privilege was granted to them.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.—What are those conditions ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—It is not possible to give all those details. Each case was considered on its own merits.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.— At least, what is the principle governing such cases ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—That when a municipality passes a resolution in that behalf and submits the same to

the Government, it will be considered on merits.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.— Did not some other municipalities also pass similar resolutions and send them up to the Government for sanction ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.—How were the resolutions sent up by these eight municipalities worded ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—I cannot say.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.—Is Malur Municipality a major or a minor municipality ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—It is a minor municipality.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.—Had the municipal council sent up a resolution to the Government to the effect that it should be given the privilege of electing its own non-official president ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.— Was not the resolution in order ?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.— The resolution was in order, but conditions there were not conducive to the grant of that privilege.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.— What were those conditions ?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—That is not a supplementary question.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.—In answer to (*d*) it is stated that Mr. L. Vema Reddy was the nominated president of the municipality for two terms from May 1934 to March 1937 and again from March 1937 to March 1941. Was he a municipal councillor when he was nominated ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. K. SUBBIAH SETTY.—Can a person be nominated as president of a municipality even though he is not a member of the municipal council ?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.— That is not a supplementary question.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Had the Malur Municipality been given the power to elect its own vice-president ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— And this privilege was being exercised by the municipality, is it not ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Were not non-officials being elected as vice-presidents ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice. This question relates to the presidentship of the municipality.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Was not election to the vice-president's place confined only to the members of the municipal council ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— When experienced members who have also worked as vice-presidents are available in the municipal council what is the objection to the municipality being permitted to elect its own non-official president ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Availability of men is not the only thing. There are other factors also for consideration.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— What are they ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—I cannot go into that question now.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— If there are competent men for the post and if the municipality sends up another resolution in the matter, will the Government consider it sympathetically ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.— It is a hypothetical question.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Has not a representation been received recently in this behalf ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.— No. One was received in February last.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— When was the municipal council last reconstituted ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.— On 1st March 1941.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— After the council was reconstituted, was any resolution received on this point ?

Mr. H.V. NARAYANA RAO.—No.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— It was just now stated that a representation was received in February last. When was it finally disposed of ? Was it after the elections to the council or before it ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—I think it was after the elections.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Have not the Reforms Committee recommended that the privilege of electing their own presidents should be given to all municipalities as far as possible?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— After that principle was accepted by the Government how many municipalities have been given this privilege?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—As and when such cases arose, they were considered.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Is there any rule that the municipalities should invariably ask for and secure this privilege?

The MINISTER for LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT and PUBLIC HEALTH (Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda).— It is better that the municipalities which are anxious to have the privilege ask for it. Because, it has been our experience that in certain cases where it was offered, the municipalities themselves hesitated to accept it. So, Government do not want to force the privilege upon municipalities which are themselves not anxious to have it.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Which are the municipal councils that were not anxious to have the privilege of electing their own presidents?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Nanjangud Municipal Council, for example, said so only recently.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— Are there any other instances of that kind or was that a solitary case?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— There are some other cases also, such as Saklespur, Shimoga, etc.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— However, generally speaking, if any municipality requests for the grant of that privilege, will the Government grant it?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Yes, generally.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— On what principle was a similar privilege extended to the District Boards?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— There is no fresh principle involved. Government extended this privilege to a few District Boards to begin with, and when they found that the scheme worked well enough, they extended it to the remaining District Boards also.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— The Minister himself was President of the District Board of Hassan. Can he enlighten the House whether this privilege was given to the Hassan District Board after it sent up a resolution in that behalf, or whether action was taken by the Government *suo moto*?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.— I do not think that is a supplementary question. I may however say that there is no principle involved in refusing. Generally, we are not anxious to deny this privilege to any of the local bodies. On the other hand, we are anxious to empower as many local bodies as possible to elect their own presidents. But in the case of some, local conditions make it difficult for Government to grant the privilege.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— The number of municipalities in the State is very large. In view of the recommendations of the Reforms Committee on the point under reference and of the orders of Government thereon, will the Government examine the case of each municipality and give it the privilege as far as possible?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Government will have to examine how each one of them is working and find out whether there are competent men available in the municipality for discharging the responsibilities of the post of president. Because, that is one of the practical difficulties in the way. The policy of the Government continues to be that this privilege should be given in all cases in which conditions warrant the same.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— If so, will the Government take up the question of each municipality without waiting for any special resolution from it?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Forcing decisions on municipalities or district boards would be contrary to the principle of local self-government. And even granting that Government pass an order with reference to a particular case,

it may not be practicable to give effect to it.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.— In that case, will the Government consult the municipalities in the matter and find out their opinion?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— I do not think it is really necessary to do so. The privilege already exists. Only, the concerned bodies must try to avail themselves of it.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—If any municipality is anxious to exercise the privilege, why should it not ask Government for it?

Mrs. H. S. MADHAVA RAO.— Are the Government aware that during the period the Malur Municipality had a non-official elected president, certain things went wrong and the elected members of the council therefore wanted to have only a nominated president?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Yes. It is in view of resolutions of that nature that the present practice is being adopted, *viz.*, of waiting till resolutions asking for the privilege are received.

Mr. M. N. JOIS.— How many members of the Nanjangud Municipality were opposed to the municipal council electing its own president?

Mr. H. B GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— It is the opinion of the council as a whole that the House is concerned with.

Mr. M. N. JOIS.— Was it the opinion of the majority or of a minority?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Majority.

Mr. M. N. JOIS.— Of those who did not want the privilege, how many were elected members?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.— Notice.

Petrol Rationing in Mysore District.

Q.—140. **Mr. T. S. MADAPPA** (Nanjangud—Rural).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the present rationing officer for Mysore District;

(*b*) the number of units of petrol given to each of the executive officers such as Deputy Commissioners, Executive Engineers and Presidents of District Boards in their official capacities;

(*c*) on what basis is this being given;

(*d*) whether the rationing of petrol in other districts is the same as in Mysore District for the executive officers;

(*e*) if it varies, why;

(*f*) whether private individuals are going to be given any extra units in case of absolute necessity?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT** (**Mr. H. V. Narayana Rao**).—

(*a*) The Personal Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District.

(*b*) Only the basic ration has been given to the Executive Officers such as Deputy Commissioner, Executive Engineer, etc.

The quantity issued in each case is noted below:—

1.	Deputy Commissioner	12 Units.
2.	Executive Engineer ...	12 Units.
3.	The District Board President	12 Units for one car and 6 units for another car.

(*c*) This basic ration is given on the basis of the standards laid down in the second schedule of the Motor Spirit Rationing Order as in the case of other owners of motor cars.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Does not arise in view of answer to clause (*d*).

(*f*) Supplementary coupons will be issued according to the necessity of each case, having regard to the amount of petrol available after providing for essential requirements.

Bus Services in Mysore District.

Q.—141. **Mr. SIDDAVEERAPPA** (Chamarajnagar—Rural).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of buses running for hire between Mysore, Heggaddevankote and Tumbasoge and Mysore-Manantody or Bavali in Heggaddevankote Taluk in Mysore District;

(*b*) whether there were several petitions requesting the opening of another service in the above routes;